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COMOR-M-9

## COMMITTEE ON OVERHEAD RECONNAISSANCE

Minutes of Meeting Held in Room 214  
 Administrative Building, Central Intelligence Agency  
 at 2:30 p.m., 5 January 1961

## PRESIDING

James Q. Reber  
 Chairman

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. H. C. Brown, OSD

Col. J. E. Mahon, JCS

Lt. Col. D. C. Davis, OACSI

Lt. Cdr. R. E. Pyle, ONI

Col. J. W. Winterbottom, AFCIN

NSA

CIA

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## CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Col. C. Ruzek, OSD

Mr. L. R. Dailey, OSD

Mr. W. F. Farrell, Jr., OACSI

Lt. Col. K. R. Duncan, USAF

Mr. A. C. Lundahl, CIA

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Mr. F. A. Voigt, CIA

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Approval of Minutes (COMOR-M-8)

1. The minutes were approved.

Briefing on ARGON (Reference: Security Handling of ARGON Materials,  
 COMOR-D-31,

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2. Mr. Brown of the Office of the Secretary of Defense introduced Colonel Ruzek who briefed the Committee on ARGON plans and anticipated performance.

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3. In the light of the briefing, the Committee discussed the reference above. It was the consensus that there was no practical way administratively to separate the workers who under present arrangements would have to have T-KH clearance to work on ARGON materials because such personnel, particularly in the case of ACIC and AMS, would be the same individuals in the same center who have need for CORONA in geodetic application of the photography. The Chairman stated that he would prepare for the Committee consideration a memorandum recommending that the T-KH certification be considered to apply to ARGON without further compartmentation.

Communist China: Complete Target List and the Highest Priority Targets

4. [ ] explained the steps he had taken in his effort 50X1 to reduce the classification of the large compendium of Communist China targets and the Highest Priority List to SECRET level. In the former case he noted that he had been able to confirm that all targets could be reduced to SECRET except those targets suspect as missile installations or atomic energy installations. He proposed in those cases to indicate under the category "installation" the simple term "complex." The Committee saw no objection to the use of the compendium of all ChiCom targets currently under discussion. [ ] 50X1 [ ] provided priority numbers were removed and provided that 50X1 no reference was made to the agencies having a principal interest in the item.

Consolidated List of Suspect Location of Missile Activity (COMOR-D-21-  
Final, [ ]

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6. [ ] reported that he had been unable in his consul- 50X1  
tation with the other agencies to downgrade the reference document to SECRET as had been proposed, although many items therein could be downgraded to

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SECRET. The Committee agreed that no further efforts should be expended at trying to downgrade the remaining items and that the document should be issued with the highest classification necessary. Any agency wishing the remaining items downgraded, should feel free to request the controlling agency for such downgrading.

Requirements for Readout of SAMOS (SECRET, not in the T System)

7. Colonel Winterbottom reported on the upcoming SAMOS shots indicating that their primary purpose is R&D. However, he said, the Air Force is now preparing a draft paper for submission to COMOR indicating the requirements against which the readout would program for the electronic recovery. When this paper is prepared, he said, he would place it on the COMOR agenda.

Requirements for the Next CORONA Shot

8. [ ] reported that any requirements for the next CORONA shot from the Committee guidance should be available within the next two weeks. Accordingly, the members agreed to convene in the Chairman's office at 2:30 on Tuesday next to determine what priority target should be recommended to Operations as the principal guidepost for their operational plans.

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Directives re IDEALIST (IDEA-0081-60, 4 January 1961; IDEA-0082-60, 4 January 1961)

9. [ ] of the Security Office/DPD distributed to the members notices approved by the Deputy Director, Plans, regarding the change from codeword CHALICE to IDEALIST and outlining procedures for all to follow in connection with the change.

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Downgrading and Release of Satellites, ChiCom, and Indochina (Reference: COMOR-D-22/4 [ ])

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10. In response to the Chairman's inquiry as to whether there were any problems in the implementation of the reference, [ ] suggested that the actual release of materials be postponed until February 1, 1961 by which time his office would be able to issue the accessions list to cover the frames involved in the material to be downgraded and released. This was agreeable to all.

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ADDENDUM: On ARGON Security as It Relates to T-KH (Reference: Paragraph 3 of these Minutes)

11. Subsequent to the COMOR meeting and in connection with the visit of Colonel Herrington and the undersigned to General Goodpaster for the purpose of further briefing on the justification of recommended additional T-KH billets, reference was made to the security handling of ARGON materials. The Chairman explained the view of the Committee on this question as set forth in paragraph 3 and also expressed concern that proliferation of security systems or compartments tends to make procedures unmanageable and can in fact provoke security error. In response to an inquiry from General Goodpaster, the Chairman stated that initial planning on the use of ARGON materials anticipated an increase of 800 to 1000 additional billets, although this had not been reviewed recently. General Goodpaster indicated that he understood the relationship in the utilization of the products of ARGON and CORONA and that when ARGON materials were available, it would be in order to prepare a submission for billets for that purpose with justification.

JAMES Q. REBER

Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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11--AC/DPD

12--DDI(P) TCO

13--OCI TCO

14--OSI TCO

15--ORR TCO

16--DIR/PIC

17--CIA/TSO

18--C/DMD/PIC

19--C/DMD/PIC

20--DDP TCO

21--IO/Ops/DPD

22--SO/DPD

23-26---C/SRS/DPD

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